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Message Text

SECRET

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12
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
---------- 109852
P 200700Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 677

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 5627

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS3
TAGS: MASS, PK
SUBJ: MILITARY ARMS FOR PAKISTAN

REF: STATE 141852

1. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, I COMMUNICATED PERTINENT DETAILS REFTEL TO AZIZ AHMED. THE TURNDOWN ON THE A-7 WAS CLEARLY A DISAPPOINTMENT TO HIM. HE SAID PAKISTAN IS SEEKING TO BUILD A DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY WHICH WOULD ENABLE IT TO MAKE A REASONABLE DEFENSE OF ITS BORDERS AGAINST ANY COMBINED ATTACK BY INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN. TOWARD THIS END, ACQUISITION OF THE A-7 OR A COMPARABLE AIRCRAFT IS REGARDED AS "TOP PRIORITY" BY THE CHIEF OF THE AIR STAFF.

2. AZIZ AHMED EXPRESSED, HOWEVER,HIS UNDERSTANDING OF HOW COMPLEX AND SENSITIVE ENTIRE ARMS SUPPLY ISSUE HAS BECOME IN THE US AND HOW NECESSARY IT IS,
THEREFORE, THAT WE PROCEED WITH CAREFUL DELIBERATION UNDER THE REVISED ARMS POLICY.

3. AZIZ AHMED SAID GOP WILL REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT THE US WILL COME TO UNDERSTAND PAKISTAN'S URGENT NEED FOR THE A-7 AND OTHER SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT SO THAT PAKISTAN MAY ACQUIRE THE DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY IT DEEMS NECESSARY AND NOTED GOP WILL CONTINUE TOPUSH ITS CASE IN WASHINGTON "AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS".
LUPPI
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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